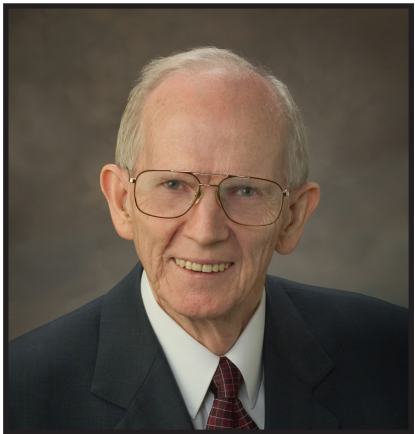


COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS NEWS JOURNAL

SEPTEMBER 2007



Call It Home Ownership

of some of the required chores and often produces joy. We can also drive around our neighborhoods and view others who have very different, but very nice yards. Whether we own or rent, our homes are something special and are a reflection on those within.

When we combine all of our individual successes, we may be collectively recognized as a great city in which to live. In fact, Money Magazine recently selected Cottonwood Heights as one of the top 100 places to live in the entire United States (www.moneymagazine.com). That was a pleasant surprise. We are honored to be in the top 100 of 2,876 cities with a population between 7,500 and 50,000.

The things considered for the award include: financial stability of the city's residents, housing availability, property taxes that are considerably below the national average, educational opportunities, and quality of life factors such as low incidence of crime, positive business atmosphere, leisure and culture opportunities, transportation access, proximity of health care, weather, air quality, and neighborhood congeniality. People are seeking out Cottonwood Heights for homes, employment, and business locations.

But, as good as we are, there is always room for improvement; and exhibiting pride in home ownership is an area about which many residents are concerned. I receive more calls about poor yard maintenance than

any other single issue with which the city deals. I recognize this has been a difficult year with the hot weather and escalating water costs both taking their toll. Hopefully, it's an unusual year.

Autumn is nature's time to prepare for next year. So, asking ourselves questions this time of year, to help measure our home ownership quotient is a good idea. For example, consider the following: Does my yard reflect who lives here and complement my neighbors? Is there debris in my yard that has been there most all summer? Do I put our trash containers out no sooner than the evening before collection and take them in the day of collection, per city code? Did I let the weeds get the best of me this year (If so, what might I do to solve that next year)? If I step back and look at my home am I contributing toward making our street beautiful? How am I contributing to the excellence of Cottonwood Heights?

Gratefully, we recognize some have already started the improvement process. It is a unique privilege for me and the others on the council to be involved in this great adventure you are allowing us to have. We enjoy mingling with you and have made many new friends. Our staff members are first class employees. You are first class citizens. Let's all take pride in home ownership and become the best city we can be.

Gordon M. Thomas
District # 1

Earlier this summer, I spent some time in the heat of the day giving my wood fence yet another coat of protective stain. My neighbor and I installed it two summers ago and I gave it two coats at that time. Then last year it wanted another coat and now, a fourth coat. I felt sorry for myself.

Shortly after I started, my good neighbor's head appeared over the fence to see what I was doing. I chuckled as it reminded me of Wilson talking to Tim on the Tool Time TV show (his yard is somewhat lower than mine, so he had to stretch to see me). I expressed my frustration that this was the fourth time in three years I'd had this opportunity. He displayed his infectious smile and said, "Call it home ownership." His comment clicked in my mind and the burden of finishing the job disappeared. I recalled growing up in a small apartment with my widowed mother and two sisters. I thought of the first home Bonnie and I purchased and fondly remembered the first time I pushed a shovel into my very own soil.

Home ownership does take energy but it can also reduce the burden

CITY CENTER MASTER PLAN BEING DEVELOPED

Even though construction of a city center is some years away, it's not too early to begin development of a City Center Master Plan for Cottonwood Heights. With that in mind, the city recently advertised for proposals from qualified architectural firms to begin reviewing and enhancing the work that has already been done in house by City Planning Director, Michael Black. If consistent with the Master Plan, the city may also have the architect proceed with drawings for a police station to replace the antiquated facility currently being used.

To date, the proposals have been

received and the finalists were notified of their opportunity to make presentations to the city council. Those presentations were made on Tuesday, September 4, and the contract will be awarded at the City Council Business Meeting on September 11. Two weeks from the contract signing, September 25, a Public Scoping Meeting will be held at which interested residents are invited to make observations regarding their perception of what the Master Plan should include.

At the first three council meetings in October progress reports will be provided. Following the last of these updates, the consultants will

present their plans before the city Planning Commission and the city Architectural Review Committee. Then on November 27, an open house and public hearing will be held to allow the public to comment on the plan as developed to that point.

Following consideration and discussion of public input, the final adoption of the City Center Master Plan will occur on December 11, 2007.

Additional information about this and other city projects is available on the city website: www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.

CITY INFORMATION: *City Council Members*

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Deputy City Manager	545-4165
City Planning	545-4172
Recorder	545-4162
Treasurer	545-4175
Finance Director	545-4177
Code Enforcement	545-4169
Customer Service	545-4154
Public Relations	545-4163

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 545-4155

For the planning commission agenda call 545-4156

For details about the agendas, check our web site:
www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

NUMBERS TO KNOW:

Emergency:	911
Sheriff Dispatch:	743-7000
Fire Authority:	743-7200
Animal Control:	269-7499
Justice Court:	273-9731

Editor - Robert Warnick
Designer - Jeimi Woffinden

CITY TREATS COPS, FIREMEN, AND FAMILIES TO LAGOON

According to Michael Watson, UFA Assitant Chief, and Sgt. Paul Brennehan, Acting Chief of Police Services for Cottonwood Heights, there is nothing like a day at Lagoon for cops, firemen, and their families to keep them motivated to continue providing outstanding service to the community.

On Wednesday, August 8, approximately 150 people (employees and families) were the guests of Cottonwood Heights for a day at Lagoon, including ride and events passes and dinner. "It was an incredible event, above and beyond any expectation," according to Detective Corbett Ford, a Sheriff's Deputy assigned

to Cottonwood Heights. Comments such as "outstanding," "wonderful," and "we've never received anything like this before," were overheard from the employees and their families.

The Mayor, City Manager, and City Council joined them for dinner and on behalf of Cottonwood Heights used this day at Lagoon to say thanks to these men and women who often risk their own safety to protect ours. In just two and one-half years Cottonwood Heights has been the beneficiary of having many criminals removed from our streets and has seen numerous fires and health care needs met in emergency fashion. The residents of the city should sleep better

and feel comfortable leaving their homes knowing that the police and firemen have us covered. And, based on comments, apparently the public safety personnel assigned to Cottonwood Heights feel a day at Lagoon is an excellent thank you event.



Emergency Plans Progressing in City

Cottonwood Heights' efforts to develop and implement a city-wide emergency plan are progressing well. Focus on a Communications System, CERT Training, a Logistics Trailer, and Family Preparedness Training Programs are all being addressed. A Citizen Corps has been formed and is growing. The Corps holds planning and training meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m. Those interested in participating in the Citizen Corps can get involved by contacting gthomas@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov; or lstillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.

COMMUNICATION –

The city is attempting to locate all HAM radio operators within our municipal boundaries. A frequency and other protocols have been established. The city also has a draft emergency communication plan that will be considered by the city council this month. Those interested and/or skilled in emergency communications, please email bob.fowler@msn.com.

CERT TRAINING -

The next available class begins September 6 at Holladay City Hall.

The city is updating the list of all people CERT or AVERT-trained. Please call Shelly if you have ever had emergency training 545-4154, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., to learn more about additional training opportunities.

LOGISTICS TRAILER-

Cottonwood Heights has acquired a new emergency trailer and completed drawings for the installation of shelving. Someone with carpenter skills is needed to build and install the shelves. Some surplus supplies and donations to fill the trailer with needed equipment have been received. Anyone able and willing to work on this city project will be compensated and supply costs will be covered. Please contact City Manager Liane Stillman at 545-4154.

FAMILY PREPAREDNESS-

Take a moment to imagine that there is an emergency, like a fire in your home, and you need to leave quickly. What are the best escape routes from your home? Find at least two ways out of each room. Now, write it down. You've got the beginning of a family emergency plan. These kinds of tips to city residents may well save lives in future emergencies. Join the Citizen Corps and become part of the educational program for developing and disseminating this kind of information.



Names in the News

We have opportunity once again this month to recognize some of our Cottonwood Heights' friends and neighbors who have received notoriety for a significant accomplishment or for achieving a milestone in their lives. This month's list of "Claim to Fame" residents includes:

GEORGE RAMJOUÉ – George recently retired from the Wasatch Front Regional Council where he has been employed as a project manager for the past twenty years. At retirement he was the Planning Manager for the Long-Range Regional Transportation Plan, where his responsibilities included both development and implementation of that plan. Prior to his employment with the Regional Council he worked for other government entities, including Utah County and the Oregon Dept. of Transportation. George has a Master of Arts from the "U" and has been an adjunct faculty member at SLCC for a number of years, where he teaches physical geography and meteorology.

HAROLD BOYCE – Reaching the age of 85 is a significant milestone in anyone's life and makes one a member of a rather exclusive minority group. Harold, a life-long resident of Cottonwood Heights (Butlerville), recently celebrated that landmark and was honored at an open house in commemoration of that event. Happy Birthday Harold and thanks for helping in the growth of our city.

MIKE ALLEN – As a the city Public Works Inspector, Mike is often seen on the streets wearing his reflector vest or coat and checking on the work being done by both private contractors and the county roads department with whom the city contracts for road maintenance. In addition to this full-time job, Mike recently completed a class and successfully passed the exam for certification as an erosion control inspector. This is an important certification in Cottonwood Heights with our location on the hillside where snow runoff and the occasional heavy rain storm result in water running rapidly through our city.

DETECTIVES CORBETT FORD & HUGH BENNETT, both assigned to Cottonwood Heights, received the Sheriff's Office Monthly Incentive Awards in July for their outstanding work in investigating crimes and developing cases. Det. Ford broke a fraudulent prescription ring and Det. Bennett solved a burglary case of \$60,000 in merchandise. The city thanks these officers for their outstanding service.

Saturday, September 22nd

Bark in the Park

1 to 4 pm - Mill Hollow Park
2800 E. Hollow Mill Dr. (6750 S.)



Events:

Doggie Fashion show
Tail Wagging Contest
Weinie Bobbing for dogs
Best Kisser
Heinz 57 Race

Includes:

Pet Massage Demonstration (3:00 by Mary Norton)
Pet Products and Vendors
Pet Photos
Demonstrations of K-9, Search and Rescue
Prizes
Pet Licensing (*Amnesty for late fees!*)
Adoption
Pet Chipping – **FREE TO SENIORS**

Hot Dogs and drinks available for purchase

LAW ENFORCEMENT IN COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

What is the best way to provide law enforcement services to Cottonwood Heights that is not only professional and effective, but also cost efficient? That's the public safety question with which the City Council is currently wrestling. In June of this year they contracted with a consultant to do a feasibility study on the ramifications of self-providing these services. The results of that study will be presented to the council on October 9, at the regularly scheduled business meeting, after which a public hearing will be held to allow the residents of Cottonwood Heights to voice their opinions.

For the first two years of its existence as a city, Cottonwood Heights participated with Salt Lake County and other contract cities in pursuing the possibility of forming a United Police Department

(UPD). The success of the Unified Fire Authority provided great motivation to study that model. The city had high hopes that such a model would result in financial economies of scale while respecting the need for local control in law enforcement activities. Pursuit of that model was discontinued when Sheriff Winder indicated he felt it was not supportable.

Since the demise of the UPD, the Sheriff has attempted to redefine the concept by which services are provided to contract cities. Additionally, there have been differences in interpretation of the signed law enforcement contract between Cottonwood Heights and the County. These changes have compelled the City Council to consider all options to ensure that the best law enforcement services are provided to the citizens of Cottonwood Heights. In order to fully evaluate whether the new philosophy and models proposed by Sheriff Winder will meet city needs

something is required to compare and to measure against. Thus, the decision was made to study the option of self-providing.

Once the study is completed and the public hearing held, citizens will have an additional week to file written comments with the city. By the end of October, the City Council will begin its deliberations, comparing the contract model to the self-providing model and taking into account input received from the citizens. Should the decision be to self-provide there will be additional articles in this newsletter keeping residents current on the transition.



PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

The following public works projects are scheduled for September:

1. ADA Ramps will be installed at 27 locations on 3000 East between Bengal Blvd. and 7400 South.
2. Sidewalk will be replaced on Bengal Blvd. near Danish Road.
3. The Trip Hazard Mitigation Project will continue in the 1400 East, 7200 South area.



SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTE TO BE ON BALLOT

After a summer of political intrigue and not knowing whether the east side of the valley will vote on whether to create its own school district, a decision was finally made late last month on Wednesday, August, 22. That day, in a Special Session called by Gov. Huntsman, the State Legislature passed a bill sponsored by Rep. Karen Morgan of Cottonwood Heights clarifying the requirements of the school district creation law.

The new law addresses the question of whether the decision to allow the public to vote on the creation of a new school district requires approval of the city(s) or county representing 100% of the constituents. The new law states the issue can go on the ballot with a yes vote from the political subdivision(s) representing only 80% of the constituents in the district. This prevented the Salt Lake County Council, (*representing only 4% of proposed new district's constituents*), from stopping the vote that had been approved by all of the cities involved.

With that question resolved, the way is now cleared for the issue to appear on the ballot at the November 6 election. (*The question of whether the recently passed school voucher law will be enacted will also be on that ballot.*)

Now, residents of Cottonwood Heights (*as well as those in Sandy, Midvale, Draper, Alta, and the few in unincorporated areas of the county*), will have the opportunity to cast their ballot about whether to create a new school district, by withdrawing from the existing Jordan School District, and elect a new Board of Education. The new district would have a student

population of approximately 35,000 (*Jordan District currently has about 80,000*).

A feasibility study was conducted early this year that provides detail about how the creation of a new district will impact both the new district and the remainder of the current district. That study is available at: www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.

The exact wording of the ballot question was approved last week by the respective cities and the county.

It reads as follows:

"Shall a new school district be created from portions of the existing Jordan and Granite School Districts that would include the entire boundaries of the cities of Cottonwood Heights, Midvale, and Sandy, all of the Town of Alta, the portion of the city of Draper located within Salt Lake County, and certain portions of unincorporated Salt Lake County that are East of the Jordan River and currently within the existing Jordan School District?"

With the election now scheduled, information will be forthcoming on the pros and cons of creating a new district.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITY!

One of the more visible businesses in our city has provided congratulations on one of its billboards for the city having been selected as one of the Top 100 Cities in the entire nation. A congratulatory sign will be going up soon on one of the existing billboards owned by Reagan Advertising. The city is proud of being selected in the top 100 and is appreciative to Reagan for providing the free, visual acknowledgement.

Important Happenings

City Council Business Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month; work sessions are held every Tuesday. If you have interest in what's going on in Cottonwood Heights, now's the time to pay attention to some of those scheduled meetings. The next three months are loaded with important decision making dates, not only for the council, but also for residents. Elsewhere in this NEWS JOURNAL you will find articles dealing with the specific issues and why they are significant. Following is a chronological listing of important dates and what will happen on those dates:

SEPTEMBER, 2007

Tuesday, 11

- City Center Master Plan Consulting Agreement Approval – Business Meeting
- Wasatch Office Development public information meeting

Tuesday, 18

- Consultant presentation re: Feasibility Study on Self-Providing Law Enforcement Services – Council Work Session
- Review and acceptance of existing Parks, Trails, and Open Space Inventory for Master Plan – Council Work Session

Tuesday, 25

- Public meeting to receive input re: the scope of the City Center Master Plan – Business Meeting

OCTOBER, 2007

Tuesday, 2

- City Center Master Plan update – Council Work Session

Tuesday, 9

- Consultant presentation of Feasibility Study on Self-Providing Law Enforcement Services – Business Session (followed by):
- Public Hearing on Self-Providing Law Enforcement Services – Business Session
- City Center Master Plan update – Council Work Session

Tuesday, 16

- Final day for public comment re: Self-Providing Law Enforcement
- Discussion of public input re: Self-Providing Law Enforcement – Council Work Session
- City Center Master Plan update – Council Work Session

Wednesday, 17

- Presentation of City Center Master Plan to Planning Commission and Architectural Review Committee

Tuesday, 30

- Action on decision of whether to Self-Provide Law Enforcement – Business Session
- Public Discussion on dog park development

NOVEMBER, 2007

Tuesday, 6

- Election Day – Vote on whether to create a new school district and on approval/disapproval of statewide school voucher program

Tuesday, 20

- Consultant presentation re: Parks Master Plan recommendations – Council Work Session

Tuesday, 27

- City Center Master Plan Open House
- City Center Master Plan Public Hearing – Business Session

DECEMBER, 2007

Tuesday, 4

- Consultant presentation re: Cost Estimate on Parks Master Plan Contract – Council Work Session

Tuesday, 11

- Decision on adoption of City Center Master Plan – Business Session